

issues

quarterly report • July 2012

Message from the State Veterinarian

LEGALIZING RAW milk has been quite the debate this year in Indiana and across the United States.

Currently, state law requires that all milk sold or distributed in Indiana be pasteurized. The only exception is for certain raw milk cheeses produced under conditions prescribed by the Indiana State Board of Animal Health (BOAH), with a special permit. Dairy farms and processing facilities must be licensed and inspected by BOAH. A person who actually owns a cow may use raw milk from that cow in his/her own household for personal use only.

The 2012 General Assembly asked BOAH to do a study of selling raw milk to consumers and then prepare a report by December 1. Since receiving this charge, the BOAH staff has been busy doing research for this report. A copy of the final report will be published on the agency website in December.

An invited advisory panel of stakeholders representing a variety of viewpoints from the dairy community will meet this summer to provide input on the topic. Members of the panel will discuss a "Plan B." The "Plan B" will be a recommendation for a model law for legislators should they decide to change the prohibition on raw milk sales.

Some of the topics that will be discussed include public health risks, regulatory issues such as inspection and packaging standards, labeling, and distribution channels, among others.

If the General Assembly chooses to allow raw milk sales, milk could be sold in many ways, including herd share agreements, buyers clubs, retail sales, and on-farm sales. The study will consider all of those options.

BOAH wants the public's input too. Since June 1, BOAH has been hosting a virtual public hearing. Anyone may submit comments by Sept. 1, 2012 online at www.boah.in.gov, or via U.S. mail to BOAH at Discovery Hall, Suite 100; 1202 E. 38th Street; Indianapolis, IN 46205-2898; Attn. Raw Milk Comments.

Bret D. Marsh, DVM
Indiana State Veterinarian

BOAH Board Actions

DURING THEIR regular April 10, 2012 meeting, Board members:

- approved the first reading for updating pasteurized milk ordinance; and,
- approved the first reading for updating slaughter of livestock and poultry and processing inspection program standards, to match the federal standards.

NEXT QUARTERLY Board meeting will be: July 12, 2012.

Premise ID

TO DATE, the total number of sites registered in Indiana has reached 68,925. By species, totals are: avian: 7,213; bovine: 26,205; camelid: 493; caprine: 8,288; cervids: 1,244; equine: 7,992; fish: 997; ovine: 5,838; porcine: 10,655.

Board Members:

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State Veterinarian

PREMISE REGISTRATION is required in Indiana for each facility associated with buying, selling or exhibiting livestock. Equine, camelidae, ostriches, rhea and emus are exempt from this requirement, but may still be registered voluntarily. Remember when using your Premise ID number to make sure the number is accurate. BOAH can provide a wallet-size card with your ID number for reference. Each premise should have a separate ID number.

Direct your questions for speedy service!

Small Animal CVIs, Equine CVIs and Coggins: 317/544-2387

Large Animal CVIs: 317/544-2397

Rabies Questions: 317/544-2389

Dairy Inspection and Processing: 317/544-2392

Meat & Poultry Processing: 317/544-2405

Premise ID and Scrapie Tags: 317/544-2381

Companion Animal

INCREASES in the number of parvovirus cases in dogs are being seen in areas around Indiana. The increase is most likely due to the warmer weather. Animals are out more, potentially exposing themselves to the virus. Another factor may also be the increase in pets acquired in the spring, especially puppies, which are more susceptible.

RABIES CERTIFICATES issued by veterinarians must have specific information regarding the animal and owner, but no longer need to be signed by the veterinarian. Required information includes the veterinarian's name and license number, date of vaccination, duration of vaccination and serial or lot numbers used. Licensed and accredited veterinarians are the only professionals allowed to administer the rabies vaccine in the state of Indiana.

Equine

INDIANA STATE Department of Health announced they collected the first West Nile virus-positive pool of mosquitoes in Orange County. The pool was collected May 15, which is substantially sooner than the first positive last year found in mid-July. ISDH subsequently collected three positive pools. The counties that are positive include Clay, Hamilton, Orange, Putnam and Tipton. To date, the total for WNV is five pools and five counties. Dry weather this summer will increase the number of positive pools found because small pools of water support Culex breeding.

BOAH RECENTLY released a 30-day quarantine on a Lake County stable where a horse was diagnosed with neurological equine herpesvirus-1 and later euthanized. Other horses on the site were monitored during the quarantine, and no clinical signs developed. Neurologic EHV-1 is one form of rhinopneumonitis, and vaccination will not always provide protection. Infected horses show respiratory signs, such as runny nose, neurologic signs and fever. These animals may have a history of attending horse events.

NEW MEXICO continues to experience ongoing cases of vesicular stomatitis (VS). Eleven premises are under quarantine for the foreign animal disease. Animal health officials anticipate more cases to arise throughout the summer and fall, due to the seasonal nature of the insect vectors.

Cattle/Ruminants

VETERINARIAN REMINDER: BOAH still has 840 RFID tags for official use or to provide to clients. We also have orange 840 RFID tags for veterinarians to use for brucellosis calfhood vaccinations.

NORTH DAKOTA has changed importation requirements related to trichomoniasis for cattle entering the state. Cattle owners should review the new requirements before moving animals. The updated rules are online at: <http://www.nd.gov/ndda/program/animal-importation-requirements>.

IDAHO RECEIVED a trace from California for a cow with brucellosis that was linked to a beef herd near Rexburg, ID. The Idaho herd is under quarantined by Idaho State Department of Agriculture. A bison herd in Bonneville County, ID also tested positive for brucellosis in March. Twenty-six yearling male bison, which were removed for feeding, were also tested. All were brucellosis negative.

A BEEF herd in Coke County, TX was determined to be TB-infected. This cow/calf herd, consisting of four units on two separate premises, is currently under quarantine.

Dairy

CONGRATULATIONS TO Guggisburg Deutsch Kause Haus, in Middlebury, for placing first for their colby cheese and second for marbled curd (colby jack) at the 2012 World Cheese Championship, in March. A panel of 37 judges tasted 82 different types of cheese, representing 18 countries.

INSPECTIONS ON Manufactured Grade farms will resume starting Aug. 1, 2012. Farms must meet the same quality and sanitary farm conditions as before inspections were suspended.

THE DAIRY Division hosted a FDA Farm Sanitation course in June that drew 60 dairy regulators from 18 states. The course reviewed the rules, regulations and interpretations of the Pasteurized Milk Ordinance (PMO) to promote consistency of inspections among the states.

THE USE of homeopathic drugs is increasing on farms. These drugs must meet all drug labeling requirements just like conventional medications, including an extra label for withdrawal period, even if the time is zero. ("None" or no number is not accepted; the withdrawal period must be a numeric time interval.) Homeopathic drugs are not currently approved by the FDA.

Avian

FARBEST FOODS announced plans to begin building a turkey processing plant in Vincennes this month. Farbest is expected to open in January 2014, creating up to 600 new jobs. Farbest Foods, which is based in Huntingburg, produces about 40,000 tom turkeys per day, making it one of the largest processing plants in the country.

THE PENNSYLVANIA Department of Agriculture Bureau of Animal Health and Diagnostic Services recently updated the Avian Influenza Quarantine Order, which outlines the requirements for importation of poultry and hatching eggs into Pennsylvania. PCR testing of cloacal swabs is now accepted for entry of domestic ducks into the state.

Meat & Poultry

GROUND BEEF holds the largest market share of beef consumption in the United States. Approximately 28.1 billion pounds of beef was consumed in 2007, and approximately 50 percent was in the form of ground beef. Most Americans buy the product at least two times a week, and ground beef accounts for more than half of all beef sales, as well as a quarter of all the meat sold in North America. Consumers eat about 28 pounds of ground beef annually. Billions of hamburgers are consumed annually.

SHIGA TOXIN-producing *Escherichia coli* strains (E.coli) of various stereotypes have become an increasing public health concern since *E. coli* O157:H7 was first identified in 1982. Cattle and other ruminants appear to be the main reservoir of non-O157 *E. coli*, as well as the O157:H7 serotype. This is now being monitored by the FDA and USDA.

Cervids

BOAH CONTINUES to offer training for individuals who want to become a Certified Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) Sample Collector. For questions about the training, contact Dr. Shelly Chavis at 260/450-2139 or schavis@boah.in.gov.

OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE passed a bill this year that prohibits imports of cervids from any state which restricts the import of Oklahoma cervids. In Indiana, we allow cervids to be imported from Oklahoma, as long as they meet the requirements. Cervids may not be imported into Indiana from a state which has had a case of CWD in the wild or farmed herd in the last five years.

MINNESOTA HAS confirmed CWD in a farmed red deer from Ramsey County. The positive doe died on the farm on May 10. The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is evaluating the situation and will likely test wild white-tailed deer in the area this fall.

MISSOURI CONSERVATION officials held a public hearing on June 9 to discuss the five cases of CWD found recently in the northern part of the state. The Conservation Commission is restricting placement of grain, salt, minerals and other food in areas where CWD has been found.

MACON COUNTY, MS has finished depopulating the CWD-positive ranch, Heartland Wildlife Ranches. The ranch had a total of 10 CWD-positive animals in its hunting preserves. Also, two wild bucks, found less than 1 mile from each other, tested positive in the county within 2 miles of the preserve.

THE FIRST confirmed case of anthrax for the year was detected in an adult white-tailed male deer near Uvalde, TX on June 14. Texas Animal Health Commission is monitoring the situation for possibility of new cases across the state.

Aquaculture

SEVERAL SURROUNDING states have reported violations of state, federal and/or international transportation laws for certain fish species, especially Asian carp. Hoosiers hauling or supplying fish should verify restrictions with the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, as well as acquire any necessary permits.

ANYONE STOCKING a backyard pond should make sure that his/her fish supplier is licensed through the DNR. Suppliers of fish originating from any Great Lake state are currently required by USDA to have their fish tested for VHS (viral hemorrhagic septicemia). Those suppliers must also obtain a permit through BOAH based on a negative VHS test, along with any permit required by the DNR.

RECREATIONAL USERS of Indiana's public waters can prevent the spread of VHS. Remember these simple steps when enjoying Indiana's lakes and rivers: Thoroughly clean and dry all fishing and boating equipment before moving between bodies of water; empty all water from boats, buckets, bilges and equipment when leaving a body of water; remove all mud, plants and aquatic life from equipment before transport; do not move fish or plants between bodies of water; and buy bait from reputable dealers and dispose of unused bait in a secure trash area away from the water.

Disaster Preparedness

THE PETS trailer made its first road show appearance at the Porter County Celebration of Wildlife Rescue Day events on June 3. BOAH welcomes the opportunity to show the citizens of Indiana one of the tools that is available for disaster response. Anyone with any questions regarding the PETS trailer should contact Dr. Sandra Norman, at (317) 544-2389 or snorman@boah.IN.gov.

Swine

THE TEXAS Animal Health Commission is now allowing swine from out-of-state premises with "Validated Brucellosis Free", and "Qualified Pseudorabies Free" status to enter specifically approved Texas livestock markets without a certificate of veterinary inspection (CVI) and an entry permit.